

This is desperately needed. The market is neither omniscient nor omnipotent. It will not solve this problem. If this government does not solve it, it won't be solved because the private sector cannot do it. We need real leadership in this area, and that is a major responsibility of government.

And again I say mark it down. Ten years from now you will look back and say why wasn't there ten times as much money in that bill because we really needed it?

This falls far short of what we ought to be doing, but at least it is something. Please vote for it.

Mrs. BIGGERT. Before I close, Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert in the RECORD an exchange of letters between the Committees on Science and Education and the Workforce.

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE
WORKFORCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
2181 RAYBURN
HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING,
Washington, DC, September 29, 2006.

Hon. SHERWOOD BOEHLERT,
Chairman, Committee on Science, 2320 Rayburn
HOB, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN BOEHLERT: I am writing to confirm our mutual understanding with respect to consideration of H.R. 6203, to provide for Federal energy research, development, demonstration, and commercial application, activities, and for other purposes. Education provisions in Section 12 of the bill as introduced are within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

Given the importance of moving this bill forward promptly, I will not request the referral of H.R. 6203 to the Committee on Education and the Workforce. However, I do so only with the understanding that this procedural route should not be construed to prejudice the Committee on Education and the Workforce's jurisdictional interest and prerogative on these provisions or any other similar legislation and will not be considered as precedent for consideration of matters of jurisdictional interest to my Committee in the future.

Finally, I ask that you include a copy of our exchange of letters in the Congressional Record during the consideration of H.R. 6203. If you have questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE,
Washington, DC, September 29, 2006.

Hon. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON,
Chairman, Committee on Education and the
Workforce, 2181 Rayburn House Office
Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding the consideration of H.R. 6203, the Alternative Energy Research and Development Act. I appreciate your waiving your Committee's right to a referral on this bill so that it can move expeditiously to the floor.

I recognize your Committee's jurisdiction over education provisions in Section 12 of the bill and will support any request you may make to have conferees on H.R. 6203 or similar legislation. The exchange of letters between our two committees will be included in the Congressional Record when the bill is considered on the floor.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

SHERWOOD BOEHLERT,
Chairman.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday's headlines announced that the national average price of gasoline dropped another 12 cents in the last week, the seventh straight week that gasoline prices have fallen. That is certainly good news for the American consumer in the U.S., and businesses.

However, we cannot allow ourselves to be lulled into a sense of complacency whenever the price of gasoline drops. We have to face the fact that we cannot meet today's energy needs, much less tomorrow's, with yesterday's energy infrastructure and technology. We must reduce our reliance on expensive natural gas and Mid-Eastern oil and instead encourage the use of clean, efficient alternatives like solar, wind, hydrogen, and biofuels. These advanced energy technologies offer the best hope for diversifying energy supplies. They can improve efficiency. They can promote conservation. And perhaps most importantly, they can bring us ever closer to ending our reliance on Mid-Eastern oil.

I want to thank the staff who worked so hard to bring this bill to the floor today, including Bill Koetzle in the Speaker's office and Michael Ference in the majority whip's office. And I want to thank the staff of the Science Committee for all their hard work on this bill and the many others we have worked on together over the past years. And particularly I want to commend David Goldston for his tireless efforts on behalf of the committee and its chairman. Both he and my good friend, Chairman BOEHLERT, will be missed.

Again, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 6203.

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this bill, but I rise mostly to praise the Members who have contributed to it: Chairman JUDY BIGGERT, and Congressmen LAMAR SMITH and MIKE McCAUL not only wrote the excellent provisions of this bill, but it's been their persistence that has enabled it to come to the floor today. I also want to recognize my ranking Member, Mr. GORDON, and his colleagues, who have also contributed provisions to this bill.

This bill should be one of the easiest votes we cast this Congress and certainly today. The bill commits our Nation to conducting more research and development on the technologies that will reduce our dependence on foreign oil. That includes biomass, solar, wind, hydrogen, and hybrid vehicle technologies. It's a non-controversial list; indeed, it's a must-do list.

Many of the provisions in the bill originated with the President's Advanced Energy Initiative.

This bill is quite frankly the bare minimum we can do; it establishes the R&D foundation we need to build from. I urge my colleagues to support this valuable measure.

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6203, which is very similar to a bill we

marked up earlier this year in the Science Committee, with some of the more expensive and contentious elements taken out.

I'm pleased that this bill, which enjoys bipartisan support, contains amendments offered by a number of my colleagues in committee, including Mr. BAIRD, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON, Mr. BRAD MILLER, Ranking Member GORDON, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. AL GREEN, Ms. WOOLSEY, Ms. JACKSON-LEE.

The bill addresses research on a wide range of important energy technologies, including advanced biofuels, hydrogen storage, wind energy, plug in hybrid vehicles, energy efficient buildings, and alternative biobased fuels and ultra low sulfur diesel.

The bill also establishes programs for energy technology transfer and green energy education, and calls for a study of an advanced Research Projects Agency for Energy.

I'm particularly pleased that the bill includes research on advanced solar photovoltaic technologies and a photovoltaic demonstration program. In August, Chairwoman BIGGERT and I held a field hearing in my district that focused on photovoltaics.

At the hearing, the witnesses, and let me just note there were 2 Nobel Prize winners on the panel, described how the relatively high cost current supply constraints associated with currently available solar technologies are limiting adoption. But they also outlined several research directions that will help reduce costs and ease manufacturing, which will expand availability.

So I'm glad that this bill will help move that research along and establish a demonstration program to speed adoption, with the goal of making electricity generated by solar photovoltaic power cost-competitive by 2015.

I have some concerns about the ramifications of the coal methanation section in the area of greenhouse gas emissions. While I want to reduce America's dependence on foreign oil as much as anyone, in doing so we need to be mindful of the harmful effects of global climate change.

Converting coal to liquid or gaseous fuels results in much greater carbon dioxide emissions than for conventional crude oil derived hydrocarbon fuels. I hope that any plants built using such an approach will incorporate carbon capture and storage, in order to keep those gases out of our atmosphere.

The rapid development of alternative energy sources is essential to our nation's security, and while I wish we could do more, I'm happy to support the efforts included in H.R. 6203 and ask my colleagues to vote for it.

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6203.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to

revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on Senate 3661.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF RED RIBBON WEEK

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1028) supporting the goals and ideals of Red Ribbon Week.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. Res. 1028

Whereas the purpose of the Red Ribbon Campaign is to commemorate the service of Enrique "Kiki" Camarena, a Drug Enforcement Administration Special Agent who died in the line of duty in 1985 while engaged in the battle against illicit drugs;

Whereas the Red Ribbon Campaign is nationally recognized and is in its twenty-first year of celebration, helping to preserve Special Agent Camarena's memory and further the cause for which he gave his life;

Whereas the Governors and Attorneys General of the States, the National Family Partnership, Parent Teacher Associations, Boys and Girls Clubs of America, and more than 100 other organizations throughout the United States annually cosponsor Red Ribbon Week during the period of October 23 through October 31;

Whereas the objective of Red Ribbon Week is to promote drug-free communities through drug prevention efforts, education, parental involvement, and community-wide support;

Whereas drug and alcohol abuse contributes to domestic violence and sexual assaults, and places the lives of children at risk;

Whereas drug abuse is one of the major challenges that the Nation faces in securing a safe and healthy future for families and children;

Whereas although public awareness of illicit drug abuse is increasing, the silent abuse of prescription medication, with over 6,000,000 such abusers, has gone almost unnoticed and demands attention; and

Whereas parents, youth, schools, businesses, law enforcement agencies, religious institutions, service organizations, senior citizens, medical and military personnel, sports teams, and individuals throughout the United States will demonstrate their commitment to healthy, productive, and drug-free lifestyles by wearing and displaying red ribbons during this weeklong celebration: Now therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of Red Ribbon Week;

(2) encourages children and teens to choose to live a drug-free life; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to promote drug-free communities and to participate in drug prevention activities to show support for healthy, productive, and drug-free lifestyles.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. DEAL) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. TOWNS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Mem-

bers may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material on the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of House Resolution 1028, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Red Ribbon Week and to commemorate the life and service of DEA Special Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena, who died in the line of duty in 1985 while engaged in a battle against illicit drugs.

As my colleagues are aware, Red Ribbon Week, which will take place during the week of October 23 this year, encourages children and teens to choose a drug-free life. The resolution before us today encourages all people of the United States to promote drug-free communities and to participate in drug-free prevention activities in support of healthy, productive, drug-free lifestyles.

We know that ultimately education is the answer to preventing drugs among our children. What Red Ribbon Week does is nationally recognize the importance of keeping our youths off drugs, and I am particularly pleased that we are also commemorating Special Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena with this resolution. The agents of the Drug Enforcement Agent serve the public to make our communities a safer place to live and work. Our gratitude to them for doing their part in our communities and to keep them drug free should certainly be recognized.

Mr. Speaker, I think this is a great resolution, and I would like to commend my good friend from Indiana, Mr. SOUDER, for sponsoring this legislation and for his leadership on this issue. I would also like to commend my colleague on the Energy and Commerce Committee, Mr. TERRY from Nebraska, for serving as an original cosponsor of the legislation.

I urge my colleagues to support this important resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H. Res. 1028, a resolution that recognizes and supports the concept of Red Ribbon Week.

The Red Ribbon campaign began in 1985 after drug traffickers in Mexico City murdered Kiki Camarena, a United States Drug Enforcement agent.

Red Ribbon Week is sponsored by the National Family Partnership. Each year more than 80 million people show their commitment to a healthy, drug-free life by wearing a red ribbon. During the last 8 days of October, those who wear the red ribbon are saying that we will not tolerate the use or sale of illicit drugs in our Nation.

Substance abuse, and the sale of illegal drugs, is a serious problem in this country. That is why it is so important that as we approach the month of October that we remember Kiki Camarena by wearing a red ribbon. Preventing substance abuse and the associated violence that took Kiki's life is of great concern to me. Let us celebrate the life and work of Kiki Camarena by passing H. Res. 1028.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER), who is the sponsor of this resolution.

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, Red Ribbon Week is a national week celebrated at the end of October that honors the sacrifice made by DEA Special Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena. It brings together local communities all over America for anti-drug abuse education and other prevention efforts.

I would like to thank all the Members who cosponsored this resolution, as well as Speaker HASTERT, Chairman JOE BARTON of the Energy and Commerce Committee, and Chairman NATHAN DEAL of the Health Subcommittee, for their assistance in bringing this resolution to the floor this evening. I would also like to thank Congressman ELIJAH CUMMINGS, the ranking Democrat on our Drug Policy Subcommittee; and Congressman LEE TERRY of Nebraska for their consistent efforts in the anti-narcotics arena.

As you have already heard, 21 years ago in March, 1985, Special Agent Enrique Camarena of the DEA was kidnapped, tortured, and murdered by drug dealers in Mexico.

□ 2015

Red Ribbon Week began as a local commemorative effort in Special Agent Camarena's hometown of Calexico, California, when Congressman DUNCAN HUNTER and Camarena's high school friend, Henry Lozano, created Camarena Clubs to preserve the agent's legacy. The National Family Partnership later formalized Red Ribbon Week as a national campaign, an 8-day event proclaimed by the U.S. Congress and chaired by then President and Mrs. Ronald Reagan.

Red Ribbon Week is dedicated to helping preserve Agent Camarena's memory and further the cause for which he gave his life, the fight against violence of drug crime and the misery of addiction. By gathering together in special events and wearing a red ribbon during the last week in October, Americans from all walks of life demonstrate their opposition to illegal narcotics. Such events include organizing drug prevention events in schools, distributing educational materials to young people about the dangers of drug abuse, and other activities designed to promote healthy choices. Approximately 80 million people participate in Red Ribbon events every year.